



**4<sup>th</sup>**  
**National  
Agriculture  
Summit**

**EMBRACING SUSTAINABILITY:**

**INNOVATIONS, RESEARCH, AND COMPETITIVENESS IN AGRICULTURE.**



**3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup>**  
**July , 2024**

**@KICC, Nairobi**

**AGRICULTURE  
SECTOR  
NETWORK**  
The voice of Kenyan agriculture

4<sup>TH</sup> NATIONAL AGRICULTURE SUMMIT

The 4<sup>th</sup> Edition of the National Agriculture Summit is scheduled to take place on **July 3rd to 5th, 2024**, at the Kenyatta International Convention Centre (KICC) in Nairobi.

### **Theme:**

The theme of the 2024 National Agriculture Summit is "***Embracing Sustainability: Innovations, Research, and Competitiveness in Agriculture.***" It encapsulates a multifaceted approach to addressing the challenges and opportunities within the agricultural sector. It calls for a holistic approach to agriculture that considers the long-term well-being of ecosystems, communities, and future generations and highlight the need to embrace cutting-edge innovations that enhance productivity, efficiency, and sustainability across the agricultural value chain. Research serves as the cornerstone of informed decision-making and transformative change in agriculture. By prioritizing research initiatives, the theme underscores the significance of evidence-based approaches in addressing pressing challenges, unlocking new opportunities, and driving continuous improvement within the sector.

Notably and in an increasingly interconnected and competitive global market, agricultural competitiveness fostered through market-driven strategies, capacity building, and policy support is essential for ensuring the prosperity and resilience of farming communities and agricultural enterprises. Overall, the theme underscores the imperative for stakeholders to collaborate, innovate, and adapt in pursuit of a sustainable, resilient, and prosperous agricultural sector.

### **Overview:**

The summit aims to bring together key players in the agricultural industry, including policymakers, researchers, entrepreneurs, innovators, academia and other stakeholders, to foster engagement on promoting innovation, research and a business-friendly environment within the agricultural sector. Policymakers will share insights on how regulations can be tailored to support agricultural innovation and competitiveness in driving sustainable agricultural development in Kenya and beyond for food and nutrition security, wealth and employment creation.

Participants will engage in dialogues on how to create a business-friendly landscape in agriculture, addressing issues such as funding opportunities, market access, and industry collaboration. The summit will serve as a platform for networking and knowledge-sharing among key agricultural sector stakeholders, with the aim of driving forward progress in the industry towards a more sustainable and innovative future.

Kenya has experienced rapid expansion in higher education sector in the last decade. Universities are expected to contribute to the country's development through training of qualified manpower, and generating technologies and innovations to drive industry and business growth. To enable effective participation of agriculture training and research organizations, and adequate engagement with sector players ASNET has introduced a third day of the summit.

During the summit, the academia and research institutions will have the opportunity to meet and engage sector players and contribute to discussions and finding solutions to the various pressing issues in the agriculture sector. In addition, the universities will showcase their innovations, products, services in support of the agriculture sector industry at the expo.

### **Key Areas of Focus for the Summit**

1. Strengthening Coherence in agricultural policies and regulations for competitiveness and innovation
2. Stimulating investment, enhancing access to finance and financial services for agribusinesses
3. Promoting inclusive value chains and market access for smallholder farmers.
4. Nurturing entrepreneurship in agriculture and agribusiness through gender sensitive interventions.
5. Enhancing resilience in the face of climate change and other challenges.
6. Agro-ecology, Soil health and sustainable farming practices
7. Leveraging technology and digitization through Public-Private partnerships to drive agricultural innovation and rural development
8. Stimulating investment in R & D; Research funding bodies and Universities to highlight their future research interests, programs, and priorities responding to industry needs.
9. Panel sessions focused strengthening linkages for a knowledge driven agricultural economy.

The summit will consist of panel discussions, keynote speeches, interactive sessions, workshops, and an exhibition. It will provide an opportunity for participants to network, share experiences and best practices, and explore potential collaborations to enhance sustainable agricultural sector growth and competitiveness.

The Expo is a curated showcasing of innovative agricultural technologies, products, and services that will run concurrently with the National Agriculture Summit. The Expo will facilitate networking opportunities for farmers, agribusinesses, government representatives, and other sector players.

We invite key stakeholders, experts, and enthusiasts in the agriculture sector to participate actively in this dynamic and thought-provoking 4<sup>th</sup> Edition of the National Agriculture Summit. Together, we can drive innovation, research, and competitiveness to create a thriving business-friendly environment in agriculture and contribute to the sustainable development of the Kenyan economy.

### **Organizers**

The summit is organized by the Agriculture Sector Network (ASNET), the umbrella body for the agricultural sector in Kenya in conjunction with like-minded institutions. ASNET serves as the agriculture sector board for the Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA), taking a proactive role in advocating for the sector's best interests at a local, regional, and international level.